

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA

AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending September, 22 1996

Issue: 28-96

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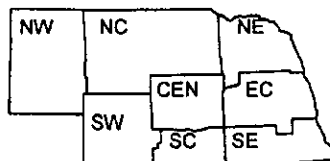
Phone: (402) 437-5541

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P.O. Box 81069

Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U S Department of Agriculture
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

A cool, damp period nearly statewide, some areas received heavy rainfall during the middle of the week. Average temperatures were three to six degrees below normal statewide. Precipitation was widespread across the State with amounts ranging from about half an inch to over four inches.

GENERAL

Continued cool temperatures last week slowed crop maturity which remained behind normal, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Wet field conditions last week delayed wheat seeding activities in the West and South, but benefitted pastures. Other fieldwork activities included seed corn harvest, corn silage harvest, wheat seeding, and general harvest preparations.

CROPS

The all corn condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 12% fair, 53% good, and 32% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 87% good or excellent and dryland corn rated 82% good or excellent. Acreage having reached the dent stage advanced to 92%, compared with 96% last year, and 95% average. Fields reaching maturity were at 21%, compared with 30% last year and 50% average. Corn for grain harvest made limited progress with 1% combined to date. This compared with none last year and 6% average.

Soybean condition rated 3% poor, 18% fair, 48% good, and 31% excellent. Statewide, 79% of the acreage had turned color, compared with 68% last year, and 84% average.

CROPS (Cont.)

Twenty-five percent of the acreage was dropping leaves by week's end, compared to 30% last year and 55% average. Crop harvest has started on a limited scale in a number of growing areas.

Sorghum condition rated 1% very poor, 1% poor, 13% fair, 52% good, and 33% excellent. The amount of acreage turning color was at 89%, compared with 83% last year and 86% average. Fields reaching maturity were at 13%, compared with 16% last year and 40% average.

Dry beans dropping leaves progressed to 94% statewide, compared with 79% last year. Harvest advanced to 47% as of Sunday, compared with 37% last year.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 55% good, and 9% excellent. Third cutting progressed to 96% harvested as of Sunday, compared with 99% in 1995 and 97% average. Fourth cutting advanced to 20% harvested to date. This compares to 26% last year. Many recently cut fields were rained on last week.

Winter wheat seeding progressed to 44% statewide, compared with 54% last year and 62% average. Wet weather conditions brought planting delays to producers in the west and south, but will aid emergence and condition of early seeded fields.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 4% poor, 17% fair, 66% good and 13% excellent. Pastures benefitted from last week's rain.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Dented	77	90	87	89	94	94	98	97	92	80	96	95
% Corn Mature	23	25	20	18	24	17	17	35	21	6	30	50
% Corn Harvested	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	2	1	n/a	0	6
% Soybeans Turning Color	n/a	79	85	82	73	98	93	73	79	47	68	84
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	n/a	37	25	47	24	60	43	18	25	8	30	55
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	57	78	83	93	90	93	89	89	76	83	86
% Sorghum Mature	n/a	12	19	6	7	4	8	16	13	2	16	40
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	88	98	98	96	98	98	99	100	96	94	99	97
% Alfalfa Fourth Cutting	17	18	17	17	26	15	28	34	20	13	26	n/a
% Dry Beans Dropping Leaves	92	89	80	65	n/a	99	n/a	n/a	94	78	79	n/a
% Dry Beans Harvested	50	64	15	0	n/a	38	n/a	n/a	47	27	37	n/a
% Wheat Sown	72	53	62	32	39	14	18	22	44	25	54	62

DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 20, 1996

Days suitable	2.4	2.0	5.1	2.9	4.5	1.0	1.7	4.1	3.1	5.8	3.7
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
(Percent) - Short	3	0	9	1	5	0	0	3	3	18	24
- Adequate	56	68	54	82	76	75	77	81	70	81	66
- Surplus	41	32	37	17	19	25	23	16	27	1	6
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
(Percent) - Short	3	3	8	9	7	2	1	7	5	16	48
- Adequate	90	87	71	85	88	89	87	87	85	83	41
- Surplus	7	10	21	5	5	9	12	6	10	1	0

n/a = not available.

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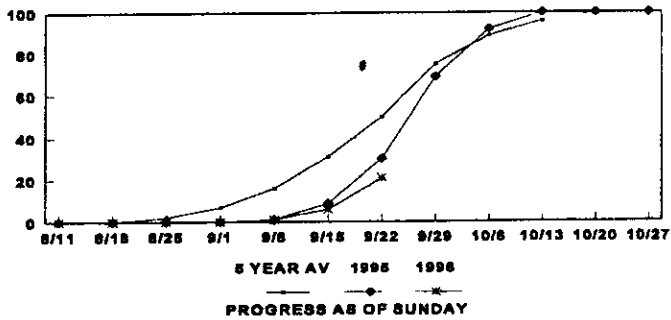
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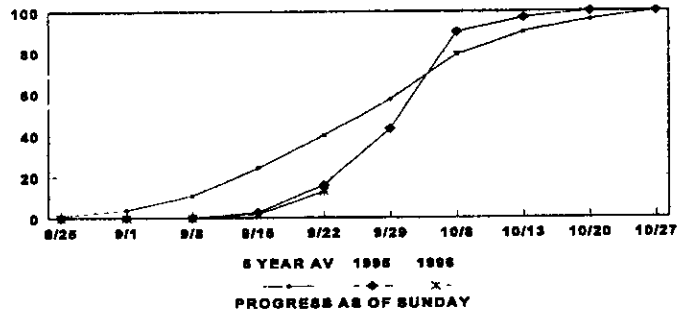
CORN MATURE

% CORN MATURE



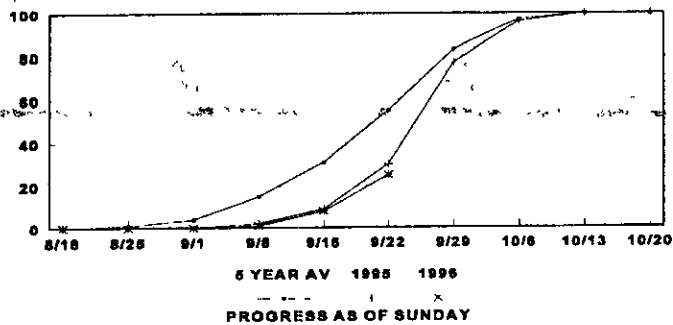
SORGHUM MATURE

% SORGHUM MATURE

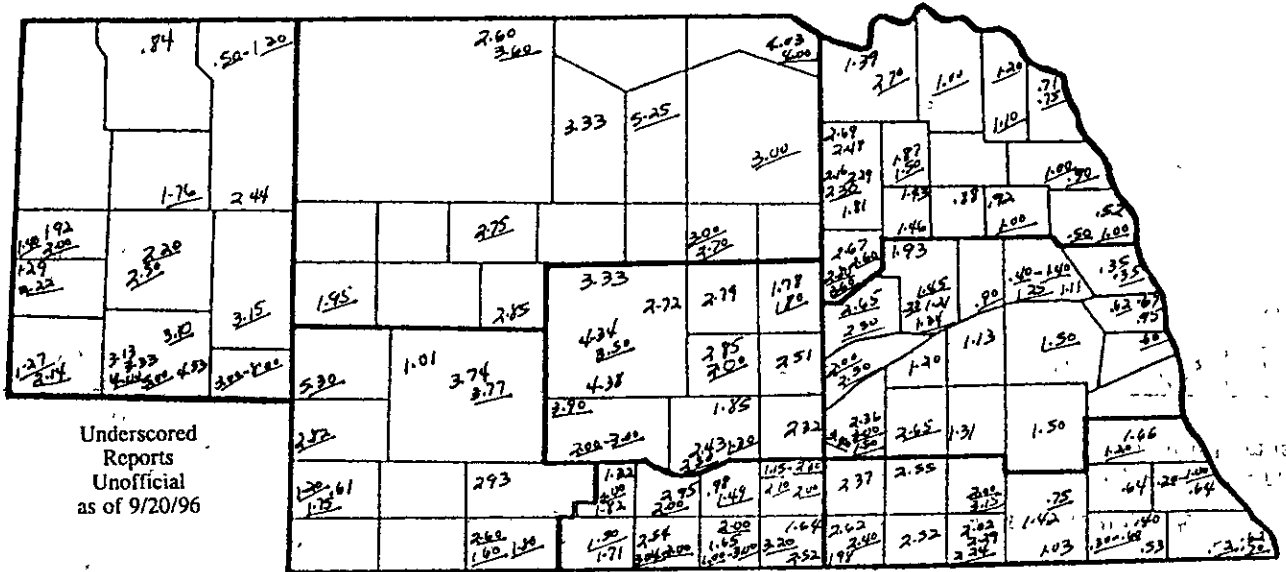


SOYBEANS DROPPING LEAVES

% DROPPING LEAVES



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1996



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 21, 1996

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	2.50	3.20	1.61	2.85	1.25	2.07	1.90	1.55
Total since April 1	14.86	17.52	20.44	21.85	25.05	19.66	28.36	22.68
Normal since April 1	12.83	16.17	18.40	17.88	20.32	14.85	17.99	20.96
Total as % of normal	116%	108%	111%	122%	123%	132%	158%	108%

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1996
GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1996

GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1976									
Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	80	36	57	---	84	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	76	36	57	-3	1.92	2412	2460	2508
	Sidney	74	36	55	---	3.13	2316	2374	2437
NC	Valentine	73	40	56	-4	2.60	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	2291	2342	2550
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	2367	2429	2715
NE	Norfolk	71	45	58	-4	1.43	---	---	---
	Sioux City	71	44	58	-4	.71	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	2399	2460	2837
CEN	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	2454	2513	2891
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	2571	2644	2868
	Grand Island	77	44	59	-4	2.32	2565	2634	2953
	Ord	75	43	56	---	2.79	2487	2548	2818
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	2625	2692	2904
EC	Lincoln	75	47	61	-3	1.50	2826	2907	3232
	Omaha	74	48	60	-4	.67	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	2588	2660	3011
SW	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	2723	2804	3046
	Imperial	75	39	55	---	.61	---	---	---
	North Platte	73	35	54	-6	3.74	2469	2524	2694
SC	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	2676	2739	2939
	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2660	2724	2920
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	2756	2825	2977
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2821	2901	2981
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2543	2609	3013

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp + min. temp divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.